The Red Sox had just dropped 10 said. "It was an escape from the re

Kennebec Journal

•Mitchell

Continued from 15

explore the possibility of neuro-poisoning. But again, all test came up negative.

Presently the baffled researchers are looking into a possible correlation between the die-off and the unprecedented opening of almost every dam and dike spillway on the Kissimmee/Okeechobee River drainage system earlier this spring. Unheralded amounts of winter rainfall filled the Lake Okeechobee watershed to perilously unused gates.

Research scientists theorize that this unparalleled release of millions of gallons of river bottom water containing tons of sediment into the Caloosahatchee River (a designated manatee sanctuary) may have exposed the cetaceans to some unknown contaminators.

Marine pathologists are presently conducting extensive tests on tissue samples for pesticides, rare viruses, toxic chemicals, etc. But sadly it well may be that we will never know what caused the Caloosahatchee kill-off.

Nate Mitchell is a freelance outdoors columnist. He lives in Augusta

24 April 1996

•Track

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Continued from 15

Augusta, Maine
Wednesday

400 for Maranacook. Amy Taranko

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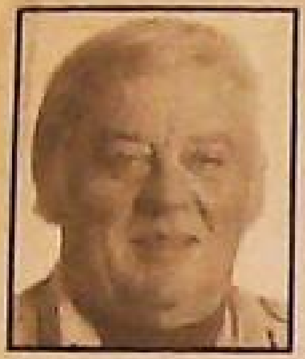
INSIDE

NHL: The Rangers win again in Montreal to tie their series with the Canadiens • *Page 17*

Sports

Sports editor: Jerry Lauzon
623-3811, Ext. 436



The Maine Naturalist

Nate Mitchell

Manatee mortality baffling

By the time March rolls around this old guide is usually suffering from an advanced case of cabin fever and severe light deprivation, particularly after a typical Maine winter as this one has been.

Since spring is notoriously slow in developing into summer here in Maine, I have found a trek to the tropical climes of Southwest Florida a decidedly pleasant way to recover from these Maine winter maladies.

My travel itinerary, while normally flexible, includes several days on Sanibel Island, shelling capital of the world, which is also the home of the J. Ding Darling Wildlife Sanctuary. My wife Linda is an avid collector of exotic sea shells and a stay on the island gives her a golden opportunity to wander its miles of sandy beaches which are literally covered with a colorful profusion of new and sometimes rare shells after each tide.

At the same time Linda is enjoying one of her favorite avocations, I find high adventure exploring 6,000 acres of bayous, tidal waters, and mangrove swamps photographing the myriads of tropical birds that congregate on the refuge.

A few days before our departure I learned of the mysterious deaths of a number of Florida manatees in the waterways of the Sanibel-Fort Myers region.

Since the Florida manatee is one of the most seriously endangered marine mammals in the world with the species only 2,700 individuals away from extinction, I made a mental note to check with authorities on the baffling die-off during my visit to the island.

Shortly after we arrived on Sani-

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Florida's manatee deaths point toward extinction

KNIGHT-RIDDER

MIAMI — This has been one of the worst years ever for manatees in Florida.

So far in 1995, 198 manatees have been found dead. Only one year was worse — 1990, when a killing freeze helped push the number of manatee deaths to 206. This year's death toll alarms experts, who fear the endangered sea cow is sliding toward extinction.

"The continuing climb in manatee mortality figures is astounding," said Greg Bossart, the veterinarian at Miami Seaquarium. "All the powerful laws on the books that are supposed to protect this animal are not having any effect. We are exterminating our state marine mammal."

The number of manatee deaths documented by state officials exceeds last year's total of 193. Those numbers represent the loss of more than 10 percent of the manatee's total estimated population of 1,800.

Manatees reproduce slowly. A female will give birth to one calf every four years, then keep its young with it for two years.

Also alarming is the increasing number of dead baby manatees. There were 46 last year; this year there have been more than 50. And the percentage of young manatees being identified in scientific surveys is falling, from 12 percent of the total population a few years ago to just 7 percent last year.

"The loss of young represents a double whammy for the species," Bossart said. "We are losing the future breeding stock."

The numbers represent a record in a year without freezing temperatures in South Florida. In 1990, 49 of 206 manatees died in a late December freeze.

"If you take the 49 that died in the freeze, the 1990 total is in line with the unmistakable, long-term trend: All the numbers are heading up," said Patti Thompson, the biologist for the Save the Manatee Club in Maitland.

The state has been gathering statistics on manatee mortality since 1974, when only seven were reported dead. A total of 2,610 recorded manatee deaths have been recorded.

About a third of all manatee deaths this year and since 1974 were caused by people who slammed them with motorboats, crushed them in floodgates or entangled them in fishing gear.

That the number of human-related manatee deaths is staying up is frustrating to experts since the state and counties have passed new laws and regulations to protect the animals.

Most laws are focused on slowing down boaters.

Asian oysters to be tested in Chesapeake Bay waters

KNIGHT-RIDDER

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. — The Virginia Marine Resources Commission has approved a series of scientific experiments in which Asian oysters will be tested in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.

Researchers at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science will determine whether any of four Asian oyster strains would thrive in the bay and whether they are resistant to diseases that have all but wiped out native oysters.

The experiments are a recognition that efforts to restore native oysters to the bay are, in the words of oyster scientist Roger Mann, "not getting us anywhere." The state's oyster harvest from both public and private grounds has dropped from more than 4 million bushels in 1959 to fewer than 50,000 bushels this year.

Much of that decline is blamed on diseases. Scientists have looked for strains of native oysters with some resistance to the diseases but have concluded they will not be able to repopulate the bay with natives.

The experiments with Asian oysters have the backing of Virginia's oyster industry, which has begun to give up hope the native animals will recover.

"Hopefully the tests will go through and let us know whether we have any hope for the future," said oyster grower Chip Petre.

The only objection to the experiments Tuesday was a phone call from the Environmental Defense Fund, which is "in vigorous opposition to any non-native oysters" being placed in Virginia waters. Bill Goldsborough of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation wants to review the project in detail but said VIMS scientists made a compelling case.

In the past, environmentalists have questioned whether non-native oysters would spread new diseases or reproduce uncontrollably, further damaging native species. In part because of those fears, Mann said, he had some apprehension about proposing the experiments and emphasized the safeguards VIMS would take to prevent the accidental introduction of a non-native species to the bay.

But Mann and his colleagues from VIMS found themselves explaining why they could not get the Asian oysters into the bay sooner. The researchers do not plan to begin any testing in the bay until 1997, and experiments with fertile Asian oysters would not begin until 1999.

Secretary of Natural Resources Becky Norton Dunlop suggested the scientists move up their in-water tests so that the results would be available in 1996.

That is neither possible nor advisable, said Robert Byrne, director of research at VIMS. The project consists of several carefully crafted experiments, and "one cannot simply pick and choose what elements one wants to do when," Byrne said.

Most of the victims of [illegible]

Manatee's amazing odyssey ends in zoo

HUTCHINSON ISLAND, Fla. (AP) — A manatee was captured while napping on the shore of a cooling pond at a nuclear power plant, and taken to a local zoo.

The sea cow, nicknamed Pamela, was spotted Saturday. She apparently was sucked from the ocean through one of three pipes that pulls water into the pond at the plant.

The 7-foot healthy manatee was hoisted onto a stretcher Tuesday by looping a rope around its tail, and then trucked to Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo.

NY POST 9/5/91

Hearing of Manatees May Prove to Be Key To Protecting Species

Florida's recovery plan is slowly getting under way.

By CATHERINE DOLD

TAMPA, Fla.

AT the flash of a hand signal in the water, Stormy, a 1,200-pound, 7-year-old manatee, swam to place his head in the wire hoop suspended in his tank. Seconds later, a light came on at the end of the tank, signaling that it was time to swim out of the hoop and bump his lips against a paddle suspended to the right of the light. When he responded correctly, his trainer blew a whistle that told him to collect his reward, a monkey biscuit.

The behavior Stormy was learning will soon be used to develop a manatee hearing test. Stormy will swim to insert his head in the hoop, and a tone will be sounded in the water. When the light comes on, Stormy will indicate if he heard the tone by swimming to the left paddle if he did and to the right if he did not.

Six months ago, Dr. Edmund Gerstein of Florida Atlantic University began Stormy's training here at Lowry Park Zoo in Tampa. When Dr. Gerstein advances to the hearing test, he will be studying Stormy and another manatee, Dundee, to try to find out why nearly every manatee spotted in Florida's waters seems to have collided with a boat. Could it be that manatees cannot hear approaching boats so they are unable to swim out of harm's way?

The research is part of an effort to protect manatees, seal-like marine mammals sometimes called sea cows, that grow up to 13 feet long and weigh up to 3,500 pounds. Although they have been on the endangered species list for nearly two decades, protection programs have been slow to develop. Under a recovery plan for manatees that got under way in 1983, Federal and state officials are doing basic research to determine their life history and habitat requirements, and are taking steps to protect their habitats, reduce mortality and educate the public.

But no one can say for sure whether the plan will work. "We're playing catch-up right now," said Patrick Rose, the administrator of the Office of Protected Species in the Florida Department of Natural Resources.

Scientists say that at least 1,800 West Indian manatees roam the coasts and coastal rivers of Florida and southern Georgia, but, given the difficulty of spotting the animals under murky water, no one is certain how many there are, or whether the population is increasing or decreasing.

In 1991, at least 174 manatees died in Florida. Fifty-three of those died of injuries caused by boats, according to the Department of Natural Resources, which determines the cause of death in each case. The boat-related deaths set a new record, but just barely. The death toll has been climbing for several years, and scientists are not sure about how long the population can withstand such a high mortality rate.

"Right now it's anybody's guess whether the number dying exceeds the number being born," Mr. Rose said. "Regardless of where the population is today, the animal's ability to recover gets more difficult every day.

"Some see the manatee as a warm, cuddly issue," he said. But he added, "They are the barometer of how well we are able to protect coastal ecosystems. As the manatees fare, so do systems."

The research on the manatees' hearing was originated by Geoffrey Patton, a senior biologist at Mote Marine Laboratory, a nonprofit research organization in Sarasota. He is collaborating with Dr. Gerstein.

"One manatee in Florida has been hit at least 12 times, judging from his scars," Mr. Patton said. "Why don't they learn to avoid boats?"

Mr. Patton and Dr. Gerstein say the solution may be to learn to warn the animals of oncoming danger. Once they determine the manatees' hearing range, they will try to find out how well manatees hear in the presence of background noise and whether they can tell the direction of the tone.

Looking for a Solution

"If we could determine their hearing ability, it may be possible to modify the sounds that boats make so the animals can locate them and get out of the way," Mr. Patton said. "It could boil down to some simple plastic device on the hull that would vibrate at the right frequency and cue the animal."

A few feet away from Stormy's tank, two wild manatees were recovering from their injuries under the watchful eye of zoo volunteers. One had a collapsed lung that had probably been pierced by a rib broken in a boat collision. The other had been caught in a crab-trap line, which had cut off the circulation in his flipper. Both are expected to recover.

Patrick M. Rose

The future of the elusive West Indian manatee remains a question, as its population is difficult to track and its behavior is not fully understood. Here, a manatee swims in the waters of northwestern Florida.

Scientists want to know why so many Florida manatees are killed by boats.

The manatees of Florida, which are genetically distinct from a small population of manatees found in the Caribbean and South America, are protected under a state law that dates back to 1893, as well as by the 1972 Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

During the 1970's, however, relatively little was done to help the manatees, primarily because of a lack of money, staff and commitment from both the Fish and Wildlife Service and the State Department of Natural Resources. Protection efforts increased in the 1980's but were still insufficient, so, at the urging of the Marine Mammal Commission, a Federal advisory group, a new recovery plan was written in 1989. In that same year, Florida established the Save the Manatee Trust Fund, which relies on the public to make donations and purchase special manatee license plates to finance the state's program.

One priority of the recovery plan is to determine the manatees' life history and habitat requirements. Since the late 1970's, scientists have conducted aerial surveys to estimate populations at specific locations, for example, near the warm-water outfalls of power plants and the natural hot springs, where the manatees congregate in winter. But those surveys opened "only a very narrow window into their lives," said Dr. Tom O'Shea, director of the Sirenia Project, the manatee research agency of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Tracking the Manatees

The Federal agency and the state are now using tracking techniques that allow them to follow an animal continuously for weeks and months. About 20 wild manatees have been fitted with harnesses above their tails; a stiff tether extending from the harness holds an electronic transmitter above the waterline. The electronic signals are picked up by satellite, enabling scientists to find out where these animals congregate and how long they stay there. That information, along with the findings from manatee carcasses and other data, is used to make decisions on which areas are essential to the manatees.

The service is also keeping track of 900 manatees that can be identified by the distinctive scar patterns left from their collisions with boats. Each winter, when the manatees congregate at warm-water sources, biologists identify individuals, take photographs and try to determine the condition and reproductive status of each animal. The information is used to gauge birth and death rates and migration patterns.

The injured manatees at the Lowry Park Zoo were being cared for under the recovery plan's mandate to rescue and rehabilitate as many injured or diseased manatees as possible. Rescue teams transport injured animals to one of five ocean areas, like the Miami Seaquarium, where marine-mammal veterinarians try to nurse them back to health.

"Our goal is to release as many of those animals back into the wild as we can so they can reproduce naturally," said Robert Turner, the manatee-recovery coordinator for the Fish and Wildlife Service. In May, three manatees were released at the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, including a female who had been injured and her calf, which was born in captivity. Most released manatees are fitted with transmitter harnesses so their progress can be tracked.

Although the survival rate for released manatees is good, Mr. Turner said, orphaned calves and rehabilitated manatees who have spent long periods in captivity may not know where to go or how to get food. "It's like taking a pet and throwing it into the woods," he said. To improve survival rates for such animals, the service plans to build a special pen at the refuge, sort of a halfway house, where manatees that are ready for release can become acquainted with wild manatees across the fence until they are ready to be turned loose.

The most controversial aspect of the manatee program is the attempt to slow boats down near manatee habitats. The Department of Natural Resources has set speed limits for hundreds of miles of waterways in nine counties and plans new speed limits for four more. The regulations, which are imposed after consultations with the counties, require boats to go very slowly in some manatee gathering spots and travel corridors, and they prohibit all human activities in some areas.

While manatee advocates endorse the plan, many water skiers and boaters have fought the rules. In Sarasota County, speed zones were adopted last December, and signs were posted in the waterways in July. But even before the signs were posted, the County Commission had decided to review the regulations.

Rick Rawlins, owner of the Highland Park Fish Camp in Volusia County, said the rules adopted there last year would put him out of business because the slow-speed zones lengthened the time it took to reach fishing spots.

"The rules would add as much as five to six hours to a day of fishing," Mr. Rawlins said. "My customers are leaving me. Some said they are not going to fish any more. Others are going to other counties."

Mr. Rawlins has formed a group called Citizens for Responsible Boating to fight the regulations. The group filed an administrative appeal with the state; when that was turned down, it filed suit against the Department of Natural Resources, arguing that the economic impact on local businesses had not been fully considered. That suit is pending.

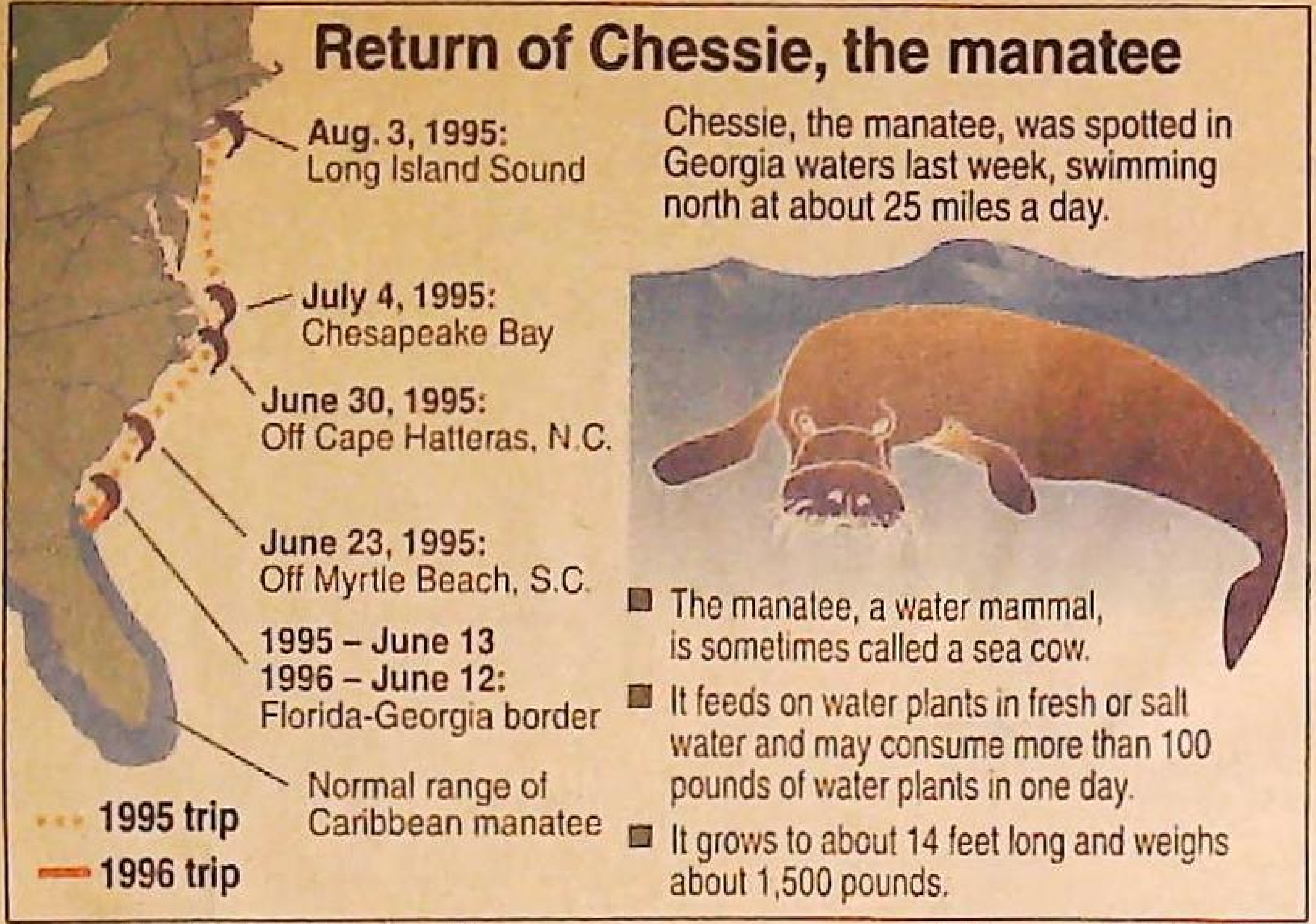
The boating speed limits are not the final step. Each county is also required to develop a comprehensive plan for manatee protection. Each plan must address issues like controls on marina sites and other development.

Despite the increased efforts of recent years, no one is certain that the manatee will thrive in future years. "We'll be able to tell something once the manatee-protection plan starts taking effect," Mr. Turner said. "If we start to see mortality decline, then I have good hope that we can do something. If, after all these efforts, we still see increases in mortality, I really don't know what the next step will be."

An armful

Dr. Jessie White of the Miami Seaquarium weighs a young manatee which tipped the scales at 75 pounds. The baby, which is more than four feet long, was born Sunday. (AP photo)

enough to be transferred from Stam- See **E.COLI** on **A9**


Aug. 3, 1995:
Long Island Sound
July 4, 1995:
Chesapeake Bay
June 30, 1995:
Off Cape Hatteras, N.C.
June 23, 1995:
Off Myrtle Beach, S.C.
1995 – June 13
1996 – June 12:
Florida-Georgia border
Normal range of
Caribbean manatee
1995 trip
1996 trip

Return of Chessie, the manatee

Chessie, the manatee, was spotted in Georgia waters last week, swimming north at about 25 miles a day.

- The manatee, a water mammal, is sometimes called a sea cow.
- It feeds on water plants in fresh or salt water and may consume more than 100 pounds of water plants in one day.
- It grows to about 14 feet long and weighs about 1,500 pounds.

Source: World Book Encyclopedia

AP, Connecticut Post/Staff

Return trip?

Manatee on the move

By KIM MARGOLIS
Staff writer

Chessie, the Florida manatee who swam his way into northern waters and New Englanders' hearts last year, is on the move again. And right on schedule.

He has already crossed into Georgia coastal waters and was covering 25 miles a day at last report. Marine life experts say, however, there is no guaran-

See **CHESSIE** on **A9**

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SPORTSPLUS — Yankees beat the Twins 2-0 on a Tino Martinez home run. / **D1**

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Connecticut Post, Bridgeport, Conn
19 June 1996 page 1, column 3 - 6 Wednesday

Peripatetic manatee spotted first time after loss of radio

The Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Chessie the Manatee, who has shocked scientists by traveling farther north than any known manatee, has been sighted again in Florida.

The sighting last week at the Jacksonville Electric Authority Southside Generating Station, was good news to scientists concerned about Chessie's whereabouts ever since he lost his transmitter off New Haven, Conn., on Aug. 22.

Last year, when the 1,200-pound sea cow ended up in the Chesapeake Bay, he was trapped and airlifted back to Florida because scientists were concerned he wouldn't make it back on his own before the waters chilled. He was then outfitted with the transmitter.

But last week, Bill Brooks, a Florida Department of Environmental Protection staff member in Jacksonville, spotted the manatee's telltale numbers imprinted on his back in October 1994.

"He was moving in and out of the warm water outfall when I sighted him," Brooks said. "But when I returned to the outfall at a later time, he was already gone."

Chessie was seen this summer in the ocean off Atlantic City, N.J. He made history in August when he became the first of his species known to reach New England. At Point Judith, R.I., he turned around, traveling 90 miles southwest before losing the transmitter.

Up to 2,000 manatees live along the United States, most off the Florida coast. Some migrate as far north as the Carolinas in the summer, but they usually stick to southern seas because they cannot live long in cold temperatures.

Allentown, PA
Morning Call 11/23/95 Gary, I'm sure you've seen this, but here's a copy anyway, just in case.

Chessie on Connecticut course?

Continued from **A1**

tee the large, walruslike animal will make a return trip to Long Island Sound this year.

But with Chessie, no one is ruling anything out.

"Since he's been to Virginia and the Chesapeake Bay area two years in a row, odds are good he'll return there," said Jim Reid, a biologist with National Biological Service, one of the federal agencies that monitors the species. "It was real warm last summer and that was a big influence. There's plenty of warm weather ahead of us."

Most manatees don't leave southern waters. But two years ago, Chessie became a regional sensation by swimming to the Chesapeake Bay area, where he received his nickname. Last year, Chessie kicked his exploring up a notch by swimming along the Connecticut coast, making it all the way to Point Judith, R.I.

Two years ago, Chessie had to be captured and returned to Florida as fall approached, but last year, he swam back on his own.

Manatees are an endangered species. They made news this spring when 155 died from a poisonous marine condition known as red tide and washed up on Florida beaches. Still, Reid said, their numbers may be on the upswing. Scientists counted 2,600 last winter, compared to 1,800 the winter before.

Chessie crossed the Florida-Georgia border this year on June 12, one day sooner than he did last year. He was tagged with a radio transmitting device in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., this winter so researchers can track his movements.

At the last reported sighting, he was near Brunswick, Ga., accompanied by another manatee. It's not clear yet whether the other manatee is traveling with Chessie, though scientists say it is unlikely because the species has a weak social structure.

Chessie's previous ventures have stirred up a frenzy of interest. Two years ago, for instance, there were Chessie T-shirts sold in Baltimore.

Reid said the attention has been helpful, although he asks that anyone who sees the animal not try to approach it. Manatee deaths usually come from human contact, mostly with boat propellers.

"He's a wild manatee, doing this for his own natural reasons, yet it's such an aberrant case," Reid said. "It really means a lot to the species to have the experience like this with the public. You can't conserve a species without education and empathy from the public."

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Connecticut Post, Bridgeport, Conn page A9
Wednesday 19 June 1996 col 1-2

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Bridgeport, Conn Wednesday
CONNECTICUT POST 22 NOV 1995

Chessie the Explorer gets home

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Chessie the Manatee, who shocked scientists by traveling farther north than any known manatee, has been sighted again in Florida.

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Up to 2,000 manatees live along the United States, most off the Florida coast. Some migrate as far north as the Carolinas in the summer, but they usually stick to southern seas because they cannot live long in cold temperatures.

Manatees are vegetarians who have no natural predators, but their numbers have plummeted because they are often struck and killed by the boats that frequent Florida waterways.

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What Happened Here? The Bones of a Famished, Exhausted Horse, That Fell in Its Tracks in Walker's Pass, California. Where the Occupants of the Buggy Went or What Happened to Them Will Probably Remain the Desert's Secret Forever.

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STRAN

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cientists

27 Feb-1927 San Francisco Examiner Calif

SCIENTISTS are puzzled by the recent appearance of a strange deep-sea curiosity which was washed aboard the United States liner, Republic, bound from New York to Bremen. A great comber swept over the forward deck one morning and brought with it a huge creature which shattered the rail and remained upright, held in position by a part of the broken steel work.

No officer or member of the crew was able to classify the monster and a hasty search of the ship's library could throw no light on its species or identity. It weighed about 800 pounds, was nine feet long, three feet wide and two feet thick.

When the ship returned to New York, the pictures made at sea were taken to the authorities at the Aquarium in hopes of establishing the identity of the strange sea beast. After a careful study, the scientists suggested that the Republic's unusual visitor might have been a Manatee, which lives in the gulf stream off Florida and might have been washed out to sea; an ocean sun fish, which sometimes reaches the weight of 1,800 pounds; a whale or a blackfish. It was, however, impossible to give a positive identification of the big fish and it has been added to the long list of sea monsters and strange creatures discovered at various times that have not seemed to fit into any classification or species.

The incident recalls the sea monster washed ashore last year on the beach near Santa Cruz, California. It was thirty-seven feet long, with a long thin neck and a huge distended head. Dr. David Starr Jordon, president emeritus of Stanford University and an authority on marine life, examined the creature and was unable to identify it.

Another remarkable appearance of an unknown sea animal is told by Captain A.H. Roston, of the Mauretania. He reports seeing a creature with a [illegible] looking neck about twelve feet long which showed above the water. It moved about for a moment, then sank slowly out of sight only to reappear at another spot.

The Strange Sea Creature Hurled Up on the Deck of the U.S. Liner Republic. It Was Impaled on a Broken Rail.

Siberia's Giant Spider Crabs

CRABS like gigantic spiders, with enormous arms resembling those of a human skeleton, terminating in huge claws which have a spread of twelve feet, appeared a year ago along the east coast of Siberia. An expert from the United States Bureau of Fisheries, who recently visited the Japanese canneries there, found that these great crabs are now being dragged up from the bottom of the sea with nets, boiled and canned like other sea food and sold to the people of China, Manchuria and Korea.

The females of the great spider crabs sometimes weigh as much as nine pounds, but the males grow to an astonishing size, often weighing as much as nineteen pounds. They are caught in the deep waters of Amur, Ussuri, Vostok and America bays, and are dried as well as canned for the Oriental markets.

The visitor also reports seeing schools of herring off the coast of the Kamchatkan Peninsula, which, as he describes them, could be "scooped out with a shovel," so closely were they packed together. The schools have been known to block completely the rivers up which they go to spawn, and provide a delicious and plentiful source of supply for the Japanese canneries of the neighborhood. Cod are also found there in great abundance, he says, and schools several feet deep and many miles long are often discovered moving slowly along the coast.

Photograph of a Giant Spider Crab, Weighing 19 Pounds.

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grave

'Chessie' now seen southbound

NEW HAVEN (AP) — A wayward Florida manatee was spotted several times recently off the coast of New York, the first sightings since the sea cow lost a transmitter that scientists were using to track the animal.

Jim Reid, a biologist with the National Biological Service, on Tuesday announced the sightings off the coast of New Rochelle, N.Y., after determining they were genuine. A claimed sighting in Massachusetts probably was a seal, he said.

The sightings occurred over the weekend.

The manatee, called Chessie by scientists, lost his transmitter last week in New Haven Harbor. Biologists have been tracking Chessie all summer. He became the first documented creature of his species to journey to New England.

The warm water creatures aren't typically sighted north of the Carolinas because they cannot survive for extended periods of time in temperatures below 65 degrees.

Chessie has traveled 130 miles toward his home state of Florida since turning around at Point Judith, R.I., the northernmost point of the animal's unusual swim. Biologists believe Chessie still has enough time to reach warmer waters before winter arrives.

Manatee's Sound visit puzzles experts

By Peggy Schenk
Register Staff

> **"We don't know why he is in Long Island Sound. This is exceptional biological behavior. That's why we're giving him special attention."**
>
> James Reid
> Biologist

Saturday 12 August 1995 col 1-4
New Haven Register, Conn page A3

There's nothing unusual about a Floridian taking a summer trip to New England, unless he's a manatee.

On Friday, Chessie, a 1,250-poundmale manatee, was somewhere in Long Island Sound, his exact location a government secret.

For two years now, Chessie has baffled biologists with the National Biological Survey, a division of the Department of the Interior, with excursions far beyond the normal migratory bounds for his species.

According to James Reid, a biologist with the NBS, the usual northward migration for manatees is about as far as Georgia.

Only occasionally are they seen as far north as Virginia or Maryland, he said.

But last year, Chessie swam as far as Chesapeake Bay by October before biologists, concerned with dropping water temperatures, netted and returned him to his Florida ocean home.

Before his release, Chessie, who is named for the Chesapeake Bay version of the legendary Loch Ness Monster, Nessie, was tagged with a radio transmitter for future tracking.

On Friday, Chessie's transmitter indicated he was somewhere in Long Island Sound.

His exact location is being kept secret, said Reid, who has been tracking Chessie, to protect the animal.

"We want to keep his whereabouts as low-key as possible to avoid having people go out looking for him," Reid said.

That's what happened when Chessie made a side trip into New York Harbor past the Statue of Liberty and swam into the East River. People hearing of the unusual visitor flocked to the river to find him.

Chessie took off, making his way into the Sound, and was seen last week in Bridgeport.

"We don't mind talking about where he's been," but his present location is a government secret. "It's for his own safety," Reid said.

Manatees such as Chessie, which are an endangered and protected species, often have scars from collisions with boats and encounters with propellers.

Several years ago, a beluga whale who was a friendly visitor to many area harbors was shot to death in New Haven Harbor. No one was ever charged in that shooting.

"It is very unusual for a manatee to come this far north," Reid said, but the water is warm and there are sea grasses for food. Manatees are herbivores, which eat only plants.

"We don't know why he is in Long Island Sound. This is exceptional biological behavior. That's why we're giving him special attention."

Chessie started his migration this year on June 15 from near Jacksonville, Fla. By July 4 he had reached Chesapeake Bay. On Aug. 4, he stopped off at Atlantic City, N.J., before heading for New York.

He's been traveling 20 to 30 miles a day with occasional longer rest stops in between, Reid said. He spent 2½ days in New York City before heading into Long Island Sound.

"He's OK. He's healthy. But we are concerned," said Reid. "He shouldn't be here."

In the meantime, anyone who might see Chessie is asked to report his location by calling 1-410-576-8723.

Rare half-ton mammal is swimming among us

By LINDA CONNER LAMBECK
Staff writer

Here's a tip. You're out on Long Island Sound today and see a half-ton, walrus-like creature barreling toward you.

What do you do?

"GET OUT OF THE WAY!" warns David Sigworth, publicist for the Norwalk Maritime Center.

Fraternizing with Chessie, the only manatee to ever make its way this far north and into Long Island Sound, can cost you — big time. Try two years in federal prison and a $20,000 fine.

"Ignorance of the law doesn't matter. Manatees are covered under the Marine Mammal Protection Act. My advice is to just stay away. At least 100 yards away," offers Sam Sadove, research director for the Okeanos Ocean Research Foundation in Riverhead, L.I.

But like other researchers tracking this wayward explorer —

See **MANATEE** on **A11**

10 August 1995 Bridgeport Post, Conn Thursday
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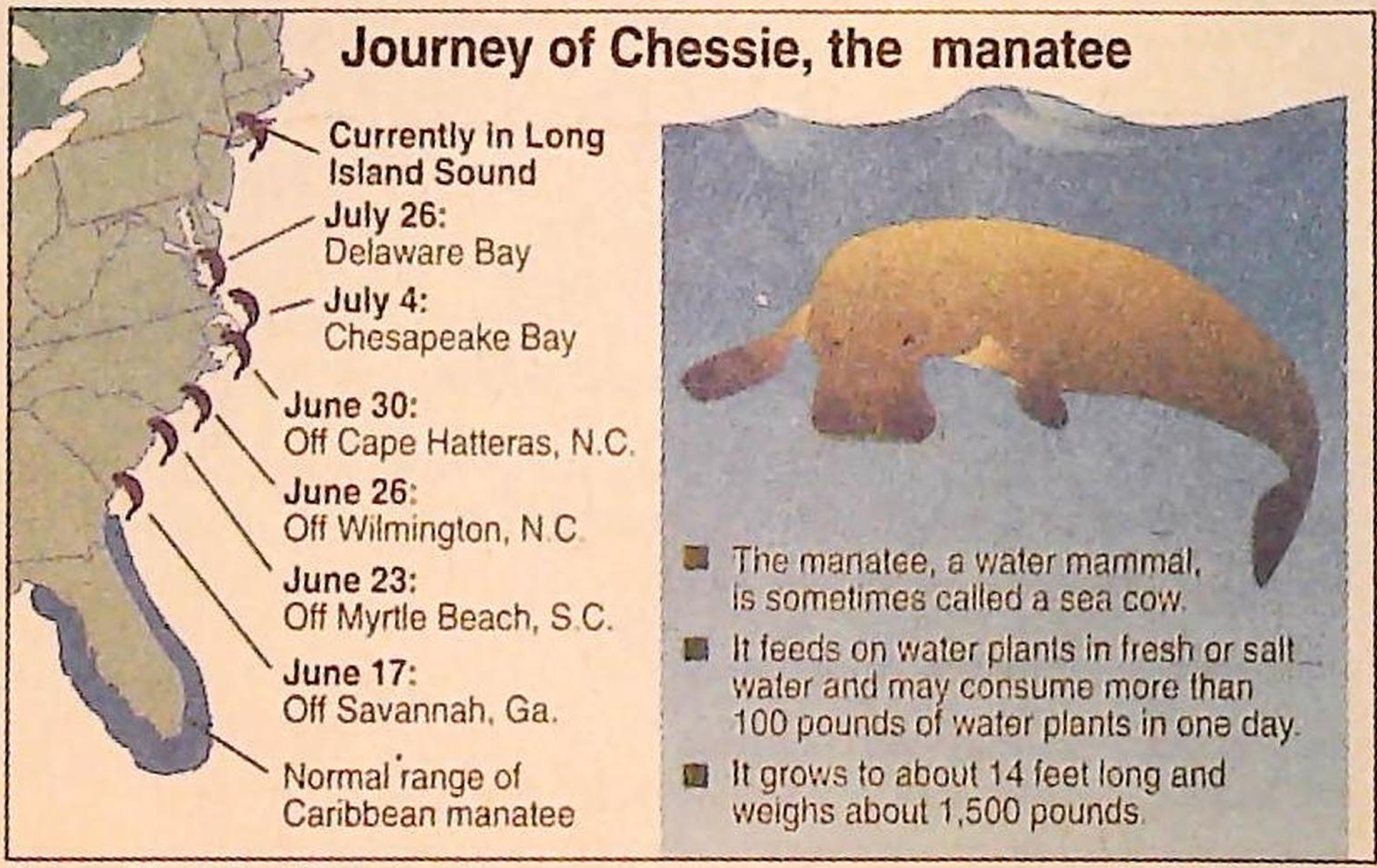
Journey of Chessie, the manatee


Currently in Long Island Sound
July 26: Delaware Bay
July 4: Chesapeake Bay
June 30: Off Cape Hatteras, N.C.
June 26: Off Wilmington, N.C.
June 23: Off Myrtle Beach, S.C.
June 17: Off Savannah, Ga.
Normal range of Caribbean manatee

- The manatee, a water mammal, is sometimes called a sea cow.
- It feeds on water plants in fresh or salt water and may consume more than 100 pounds of water plants in one day.
- It grows to about 14 feet long and weighs about 1,500 pounds.

Source: World Book Encyclopedia

Associated Press

Bridgeport Post, Conn Thursday
10 August 1995 page A13 col 2

Manatee makes marathon meander from Fla. home

Continued from **A1**

sort of the Christopher Columbus of his endangered species — Sadove, has one fin up on the rest of us. He at least knows where Chessie is, thanks to a little satellite transmitter attached to the mammal's tail.

To protect Chessie, scientists will only say he has now cleared the murky waters of the East River and is heading north, somewhere in Long Island Sound. He clocks about 28 miles a day.

Since he left the Florida coastline in mid-June, Chessie has logged more than 1,500 miles.

Officials know because Chessie was tagged and monitored last year — the first time he broke from familiar waters off the Florida coast and started swimming north.

That time, he made it as far as Chesapeake Bay - hence the nickname.

Highly unusual, says Sigworth, who says manatees — which number about 1,800 in the United States — have been known to get as far north as the Carolinas, but never Maryland.

Chessie hung out in the Chesapeake Bay long enough to spawn a "Save Chessie" campaign complete with T-shirts and buttons before the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service stepped in, and airlifted the sociable lug back to Florida.

But buoyed by the spotlight perhaps, Chessie started heading north again in mid June.

"Right now our policy is to let him do his thing and observe," said Sadove.

Although cold water could be a threat to the 10-foot, blubber-padded record-breaker, Sigworth said the water in the Sound should feel pretty comfortable to Chessie.

And scientist are curious as to just how far this marathon manatee will go.

"He's a wanderer. He knows how to take care of himself. He's boatwise, he's smart," said Patricia Disher, a spokeswoman for the wildlife service.

A vegetarian, manatees have no natural predators and unlike walruses, have no tusks. There biggest enemies are man, boat propellers and fishing nets.

Although there are no more boats and nets up north than down in Florida, Sigworth said the big threat to Chessie — who has managed to avoid propellers from 30 to 50 years experts estimate — is that boaters are just not used to sharing the water with manatees.

"If you see him, stay clear, but call us," said Sadove.

The number at the Okeanos Ocean Research Foundation is 516-369-9829.

Roving Manatee's Whale of a Trail

Endangered Mammal Travels From Florida to East River

By CHUCK SUDETIC

His name is Chessie and he is an Olympian of a mammal known as a manatee. He is male, about 10 feet long, 1,200 pounds and 30 to 50 years old. He was spotted here yesterday swimming up the East River. And anybody who messes with him could be fined $20,000.

Chessie has now broken all records for known manatee travel, Linda Taylor of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service said. Last year, on his first trip north, he made it as far as the Chesapeake Bay before scientists, concerned about his health in cooler waters, had him airlifted back to Florida in October. Wildlife Service scientists named him Chessie after the bay.

Manatees resemble large walruses without tusks, and the 1,800 in the United States are an endangered species. The animals live mostly in the coastal inlets and rivers of Florida and migrate north in summer, generally no farther than the North Carolina coast, Ms. Taylor said.

This summer, Chessie, who has been dodging boats all his life, spent the Fourth of July holiday near the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay after leaving his winter home in Florida.

Then, he swam up the New Jersey coast, covering about 28 miles a day, said Jim Reid, a biologist who studies manatees for the Interior Department's National Biological Service.

Mr. Reid said Chessie, a vegetarian, had no trouble finding food during his trek up the coast. But Mr. Reid said that "there is really nothing for him to eat in the East River in terms of natural vegetation."

"Pollution and debris in the water are a concern," he said. "But we have to remember that he is an adult manatee who frequents Fort Lauderdale and canals in other urban areas in Florida, which are, frankly, not nice places to be."

> 'Here fishy, fishy' is definitely out, says the Wildlife Service.

Ms. Taylor said people should not try to feed the manatee.

"Chessie is very, very endangered, and protected by both the Marine Mammal Act and the Endangered Species Act," she said. "The fine for harassing him could be $20,000."

"The only people who should be around him are researchers," she added. "People should not feed him and should not go near him even in boats."

Chessie's trip this far north may be the result of the unusually warm air and ocean temperatures this summer, Mr. Reid said .

The biologist affixed a satellite transmitter to Chessie's tail when he ventured into the Chesapeake Bay last year and has been tracking him ever since.

"We've been monitoring his progress as he's been moving up the coast, both by satellite and by truck and boat," Mr. Reid said. "In a lot of places, the road is close enough and you can track better by vehicle."

Mr. Reid said he examined Chessie about three weeks ago and attached a new satellite transmitter.

"We can get six locations a day," he said.

Manatees have no natural predators, Mr. Reid said.

"The only real danger to them comes from man," he said. "Chessie has been dodging boats his entire life. He has several scars he's received from boat motors. About half of the manatees killed by boats are killed by the hull impact."

Ms. Taylor said Chessie has covered about 1,500 miles since setting off from his winter home in the Banana River in Brevard County, Florida.

"It's normal for the male manatee to be the vagabond, while the females tend to stay in their territory," she said.

She declined to comment on whether Chessie may have ventured this far north because he was scorned in love. "I think that's rather personal for us to ask him at this point," she said.

Ms. Taylor said Interior Department scientists would not interfere with Chessie's adventure unless the animal showed some sign of distress.

"We'd like for nature to take its course and for him to complete his migratory pattern," she said. "If he is injured, the network is in place and can be called upon if he gets in trouble."

KEEPING TRACK

Chessie's Travels Up the Coast

WHO'S CHESSIE?

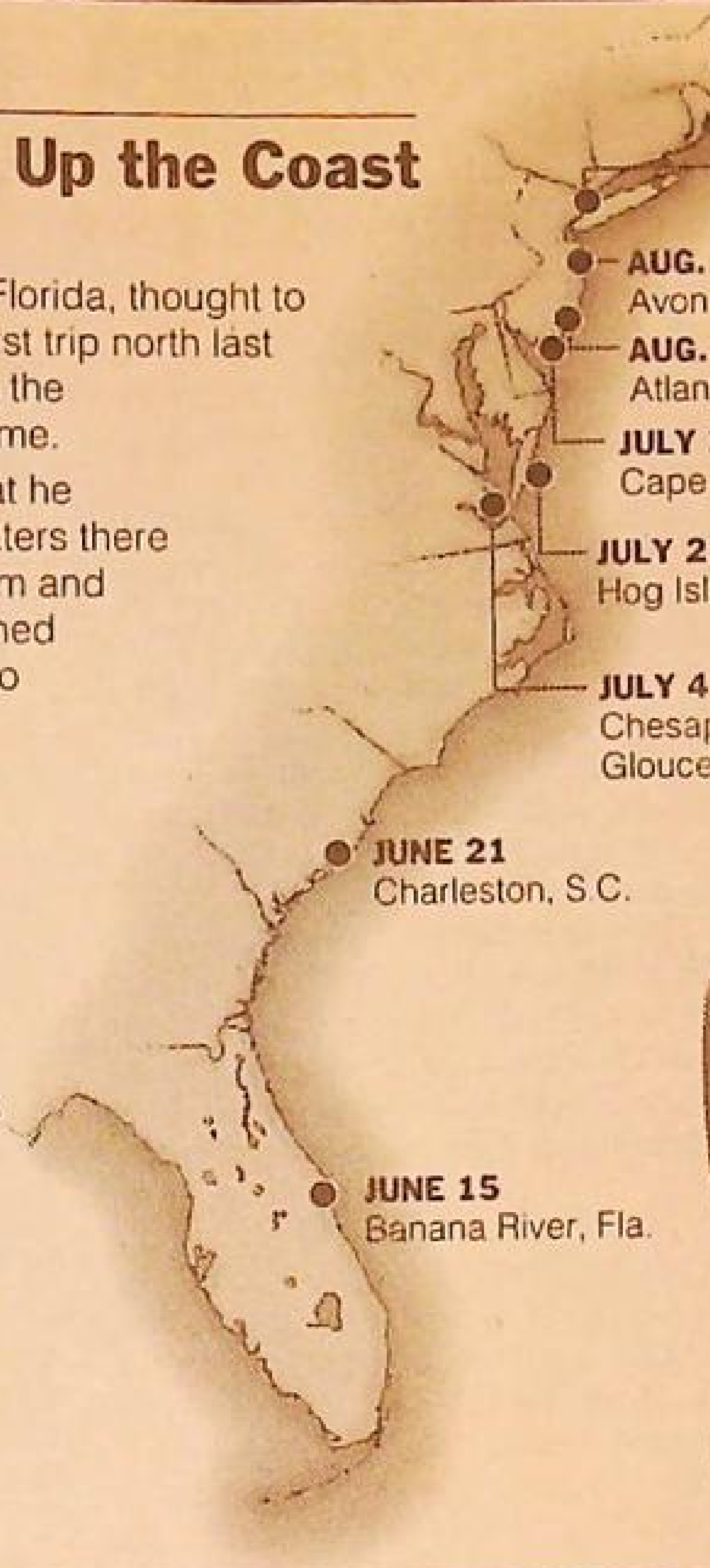
A 10-foot-long manatee from Florida, thought to be 30 to 50 years old. On his first trip north last year, he made it as far north as the Chesapeake Bay hence the name.

Scientists were concerned that he wouldn't survive the cooling waters there last October, so they caught him and flew him home. Before they turned him loose, they attached a radio tracking device. His current travels are shown at right.

WHERE DO MANATEES LIVE?

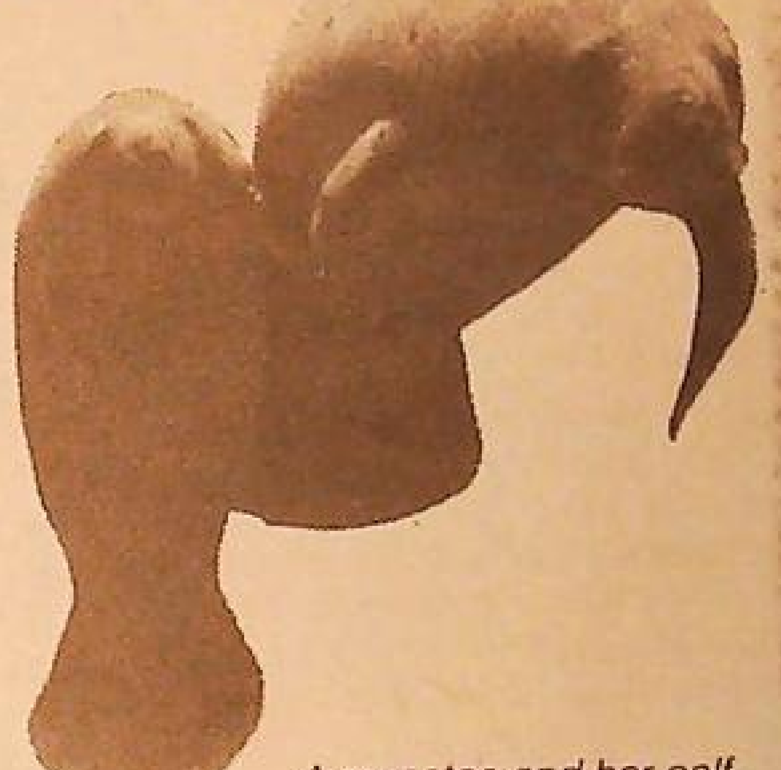
About 1,800 manatees are thought to live in the United States, primarily in Florida. Protected as an endangered species, their biggest enemies are boats and their propellers.

Manatees, which can grow 14 feet long and weigh 1,500 pounds, feed on water plants in fresh and salt water, consuming up to 100 pounds of plants a day.



WHAT'S A MANATEE?

A large water mammal, sometimes called a sea cow. In early days of ocean travel, some sailors mistook them for women, leading to the myth of the mermaid.



A manatee and her calf.

Wayward Florida manatee found in N.Y.'s East River

NEW YORK (NYT) — His name is Chessie and he's an Olympian of a mammal known as a manatee. He is male, about 10 feet long, 1,200 pounds and 30 to 50 years old. He was spotted here Monday swimming up the East River. And anybody who messes with him could be fined $20,000.

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"Pollution and debris in the water are a concern," he said. "But we have to remember that he is an adult manatee who frequents Fort Lauderdale and canals in other urban areas in Florida, which are, frankly, not nice places to be."

Ms. Taylor said people should not try to feed the manatee.

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Chessie's trip this far north may be the result of the unusually warm air and ocean temperatures this summer, Reid said.

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Florida manatee swims on to R.I.

Associated Press

CHARLESTOWN, R.I. — Marine biologists befuddled by the spotting of a 1,200-pound manatee far north of his native Florida say this sea pig is unusually curious and intrepid.

It may be the warm summertime waters that lured Chessie the manatee north, say researchers who believe him to be the first of his species to visit New England.

''We have never documented a manatee sighting north of the Chesapeake Bay,'' said Jim Reid, a biologist with the National Biological Service.

Scientists including Reid have been tracking Chessie since he was spotted last October off Maryland's coast; the sighting alarmed biologists because manatees cannot survive for extended periods of time in temperatures below 65 degrees.

Worried that the creature would die, rescuers trapped it and airlifted it back to Florida.

But once again, Chessie spent its summer moving north, at a rate of about 20 to 30 miles a day. This time, however, he is fitted with a 5-pound radio tag buoy on his tail. The device transmits his position to scientists.

While wildlife officials are not releasing Chessie's location for fear boaters may try to get too close to him, he was last seen headed north from New Haven last weekend.

Vegetarians who have no natural predators, manatees generally die of either natural causes or contact with humans.

From 1976 to 1993, 527 of the recorded 2,000 manatee deaths in Florida were those killed by boats. Another 151 died as a result of other human activities.

Also known as sea cows, manatees are an endangered species. An estimated 1,800 to 2,000 manatees survive in the United States, most living along the coastal waters off Florida. In the summer months, some migrate north, as far away as the Carolinas. But Chessie shocked scientists when he first appeared off Virginia.

''Maybe he is a more curious and intrepid individual than others in the population,'' Reid said.

Manatees do not tend to be social creatures, often traveling alone and not forming what people think of as cohesive family bonds. Traveling seems to be Chessie's first priority, making stops in Georgia in June, Atlantic City and Ellis Island last month and Connecticut last week.

''This animal appears to be in good health. He's spending time both traveling, and resting and feeding along his way,'' said Reid.

Hartford Courant, Conn 16 August 1995 Page A10

Chessie a long way from home

Continued from Page 1

had an up-to-date location, he only smiled.

Reid is trailing Chessie with the aid of a satellite and a radio-tracking device. Biologists captured Chessie in October near Queenstown, Md., and flew the marine mammal back to Florida after scientists feared he would die in cold weather.

A transmitter is concealed in a 5-pound buoy attached to a belt wrapped around his tail. The buoy is designed to break away if it gets snagged. Since manatees move slowly, the transmitter does not interfere with their movements, Reid said.

Reid gets a fix on Chessie six times a day by satellite, unless the transmitter is submerged when the satellite passes overhead. He also can find the manatee with a radio-finder in his truck.

There are no immediate plans to fly Chessie back south, although Reid said scientists will intervene if Chessie gets in trouble. Coastal waters as far north as Maine are 65 degrees, the result of the unusually hot summer.

Chessie has visited a few tourist spots on the Eastern Seaboard, stopping near Atlantic City, N.J., July 31 and showing up Aug. 7 in New York City, where he ambled by the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. After a couple of days in the big city, Chessie swam up the East River and kept going past the

Throgs Neck Bridge into Long Island Sound.

Corey Matias and his 10-year-old brother, Brian, encountered him Thursday at their family's Dolphin Cove Marina, at the end of Seaview Avenue. The creature was resting in an empty slip.

"First, I thought it was a scuba diver," Brian said. He was confused by the buoy, which had a number visible, and trailing antenna. Then Chessie opened his mouth.

"I thought it was a crocodile," Brian said.

"But it had a number," Corey reminded him.

"A numbered crocodile," Brian conceded.

Both boys yelled. Their 18-year-old brother, Gary, came on the run.

"They were talking about a sea monster," Gary said. "I took a look and thought it was a whale."

Chessie's buoy was caught on the boat slip. Gary freed it. While he held on, Chessie moved and Gary nearly fell in. Chessie has since been spotted in the Quinnipiac River in New Haven.

The Matias boys told their story Tuesday while Reid stopped by the marina for lunch, accompanied by Linda Taylor of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and two friends, Bob and Dian Rattner of Branford.

Bob Rattner is a wildlife photographer who frequently photographs manatees in Florida. He and Dian befriended Reid on their trips, but Reid never accepted their invitation to visit — until now.

"They never thought I'd come with a manatee," Reid said.

Rattner smiled and said, "I've visited manatees many times in Florida. This has a nice symmetry."

If you see a manatee, call the National Biological Service at (410) 576-8723 and report the location. If it has a radio transmitter, note the color.

Manatee's jaunt unusual concern

By KIM MARGOLIS
Staff writer

The manatee known as Chessie has left Connecticut waters, but disappointed environmentalists report that he continues swimming north.

"I wish he'd turn around," said Nancy Sadusky, of the Save the Manatee Club of Maitland, Fla. "We want to let him do his thing, but we're all on the edge of our seats wanting him to flip around and come home."

Chessie's trek from his Florida home is thought to be unusual, as the walrus-like animals usually swim no farther north than the Carolinas. Last year, Chessie made it to Chesapeake Bay

See **MANATEE'S** on **A6**

Sat August 19
1995

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Manatee's journey unusual

Continued from **A1**

before being captured and airlifted home by officials who feared he would perish in cold autumn waters. This year he has ventured further up the Atlantic seaboard. After spending about a week along the Connecticut coastline of Long Island Sound, he's most recently been spotted off the Rhode Island coast.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service members, who are charged with the care of the endangered species, hope to allow Chessie to return to Florida himself instead of forcing them to capture him again.

Wildlife officials hope Chessie will turn around when he senses the water becoming too cold. The Sound water is now 72 degrees; manatees cannot live in water below 65 degrees.

Last year, environmentalists grabbed Chessie in late September, before the water reached 65. But they did not have the luxury of waiting until the last minute because Chessie was so hard to locate.

But while returning Chessie home last year, scientists put a radio transmitter on him that allows them to track his movements. Because they know almost exactly where he is, they will wait until the last possible moment to capture him this year.

"If it appears he is moving away, it's possible there will be a rescue," said Fish and Wildlife biologist Kathy Reshetiloff. "We're all still hoping and believing this manatee will start moving south just by its nature of needing warm water. We want him to do that first and not interfere."

Last year, Save the Manatee Club started a Rescue and Rehabilitation Fund for wayward or injured manatees. Last year, it cost $6,000 to capture, tow and fly Chessie back to Florida, Sadusky said.

The club would pay to return Chessie again.

"Each individual animal is very important to the species as a whole," Sadusky said.

Ito remains as judge in Simpson trial

Continued from **A1**

bolster its contention Fuhrman is a racist cop who planted evidence.

Fuhrman, now retired, testified in March about finding a bloody glove behind Simpson's house the morning after the June 12, 1994, knife murders of Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ronald Goldman. Simpson has pleaded innocent.

After it was disclosed Fuhrman made disparaging comments about Ito's wife, Reid was appointed to review the tapes and determine whether Ito's wife had anything relevant to offer at trial. Prosecutors had suggested they might need to call York to rebut some of Fuhrman's claims on the tapes, forcing Ito to step down for conflict of interest.

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CONNECTICUT POST, CONN

MI S New Haven Register, Wednesday, August 16, 1995 Page B3

LOCAL

Manatee still enjoying vacation in L.I. Sound

By Sarah Kaufman-Sharp
Register Correspondent

STRATFORD

STRATFORD — A biologist with the U.S. Department of Interior said Tuesday that a wandering male manatee is continuing to thrive in Long Island Sound.

Jim Reid of the National Biological Services said during a news conference at the Stewart B. McKinney Wildlife Refuge in Stratford that the manatee, dubbed Chessie, has traveled more than 1,500 miles from his home in Florida.

Reid and other biologists working for the Department of Interior have been tracking Chessie's movements via a radio transmitter.

Manatees are warm water creatures that can die if they stay too long in cold water, Reid said. But since Chessie swam all the way to the Chesapeake Bay in Virginia last year and is a mature male, biologists said they believe he may be able to safely make his way back to Florida before water temperatures drop too low.

Chessie was rescued from Chesapeake Bay last year after staying up north too long. Reid said if the same thing happens again this year, another attempt may be made to rescue him.

"We would be more concerned if he wasn't a mature adult," he said.

"We really want to be able to give Chessie the full benefit of the doubt that he will be able to make his way back home. Hopefully, we'll be able to continue to monitor his movements."

Reid said the transmitter being used to track Chessie will break free if it becomes entangled. That the transmitter is still on the large, walrus-like creature is a good sign.

Biologists said they believe Chessie entered the Sound through the East River in New York. While rivers with rapid currents are more dangerous for manatees than the open ocean, Reid said he is confident that Chessie's age and experience will enable him to use the same or a similar river to make his way home.

Biologists are not disclosing the location of Chessie to keep curious residents from trying to seek out the manatee.

Hope rises in rubble of theater

Developers prowl Stratford landmark

By ELIZABETH GALVIN
Correspondent

STRATFORD — A musty stage, sagging floors and torn ceiling tiles almost obscure what was once a show-stopping landmark.

But Stratford resident Louis Burke is able to look past defects in the hulking gray building, abandoned six years ago. He only sees soft footlights and hears thunderous applause.

Burke is among at least three prospective developers who are looking for a chance to revive the state-owned American Festival Theatre, formerly known as the American Shakespeare Theatre.

Interested buyers met with representatives from the state Department of Environmental Protection Tuesday to tour the 14.4-acre property on the Housatonic River.

The state is looking for bidders to purchase and revive the property as a performing arts center.

Prospective buyers must continue operating the property as a theater and produce at least one Shakespearean production each year, according to state legislation enacted last year.

Burke, of Brickhill-Burke Productions, said he has been interested in the property for the past six years. He would like to build at least two additional theaters there to offer a variety of productions to theater goers.

"It's a magnificent site and the name of Stratford itself has a certain mystique," Burke said. "It's sad to see that it has been neglected for so long."

The property is overgrown with weeds and the massive theater itself has become dilapidated.

Yellow fiberglass insulation hangs out of holes in the ceiling of the lobby. Floor tiles are missing to expose plywood that sags under the weight of those who cross it.

"What has happened here over the course of the years is a shame," DEP Commissioner Sidney J. Holbrook said. "But we hope to rectify it."

The state has tried to lease the property in the past with no success, said Charles Reed, DEP's director of land acquisition anc property management.

Another local group, Stratford upon-the-Housatonic, was chose by the state last year to develop th property. But lease negotiation were stalled due to complaint from Burke about the selectio process.

Robert DelBuono, president o SUTHI, said his group is still inter ested in the property. He also at tended Tuesday's meeting.

This time the DEP is lookin for a serious bidder. A nonrefund able deposit of at least $25,000 wi be required.

An advisory committee is bein assembled to review proposals Reed said. The state is more con

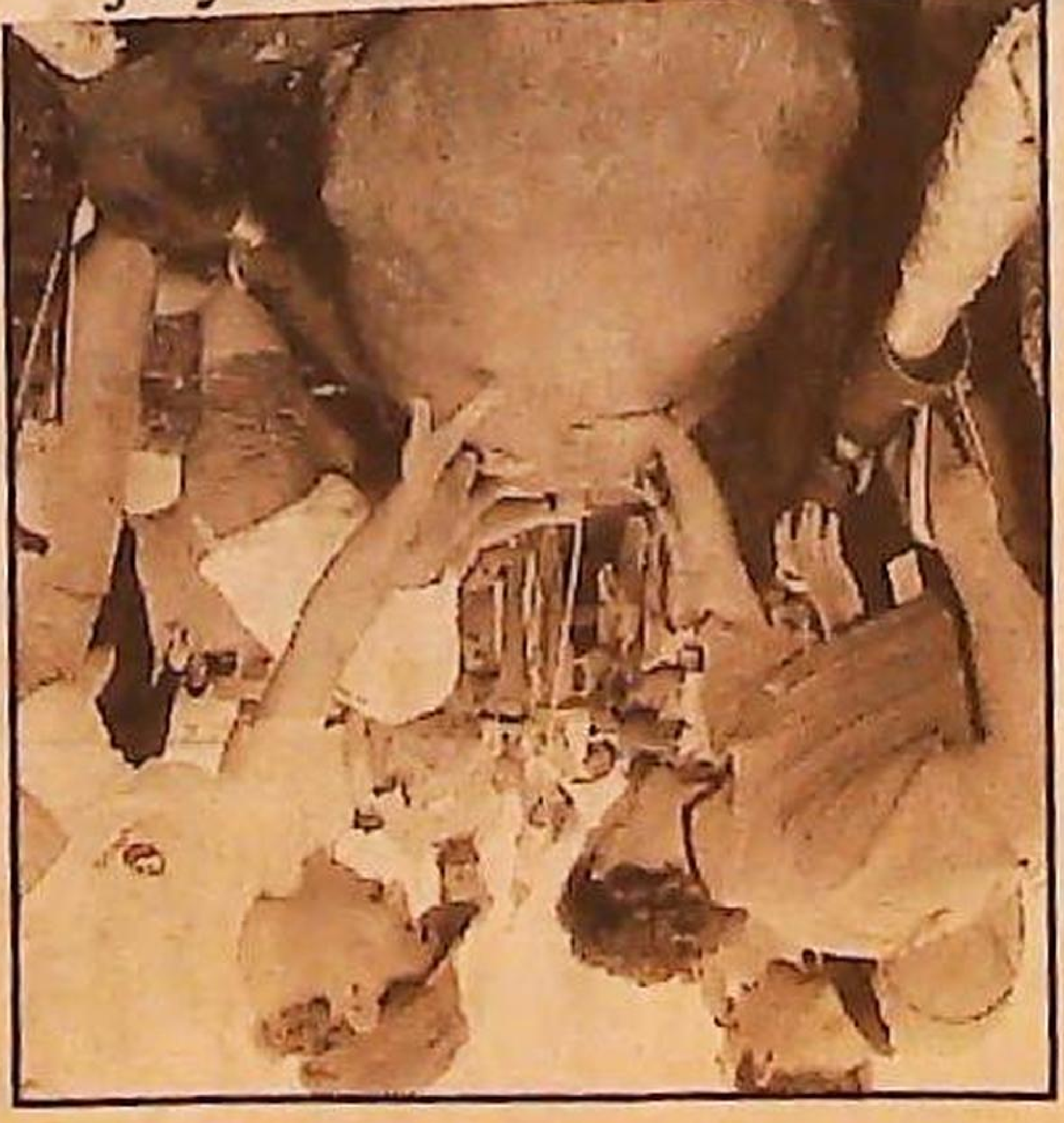
Ledyard targeted for bogus $100 bills

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — Sev men passing counterfeit $100 bil may have fooled change machin in Atlantic City casinos, but th couldn't dupe a prostitute for lor authorities said Tuesday.

After learning from colleagu that the three hundreds she w given by one of the men were b gus, the woman tipped police at t resort, leading to their arrest ov the Memorial Day weekend, sa Robert Pochopin, special agent charge of the Secret Service offi in Atlantic City.

Since then, bills from the san printer have been found in Las V gas casinos and at Foxwoods R sort Casino in Ledyard, Conn. N one has been arrested in conne tion with those counterfeit bil Three others believed linked to t ring have been arrested in Atlan City casinos, Pochopin said.

On Tuesday, a federal gra jury in Camden indicted the sev



staurant

Mr. Manatee continues to thrive in L.I. Sound

By KIM MARGOLIS
Staff writer

Chessie the wayward manatee is still swimming safely in Long Island Sound as part of his second straight unusual northern summer trip.

"He's doing fine," said Kathy Reshetiloff, a biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. "We tracked him this weekend. The transmitter is working and he's still in the Sound."

And to the Sound he may return again. Last year, the male manatee swam from Florida to Virginia and ended up in Chesapeake Bay. The large, walrus-like mammal became a cult hero of sorts because scientists thought manatees traveled no further north than the Carolinas from their homes in the waters off Florida. But a group aimed at saving the manatees, which number just 1,800 in the United States, said now that Chessie has found he can swim this far north, there's no reason to think he'll stop coming. All a manatee needs are warm waters and a food supply, and he has found that in Long Island Sound, said Nancy Sadusky, spokeswoman for Save the Manatee Club of Maitland, Fla.

Last year the club paid $6,000 to fly Chessie back to Florida in October. Chessie was tagged and is being monitored by transmitter so that wildlife biologists can study migration patterns which may show that Chessie's trek is not so unusual.

"He might be teaching us something," Sadusky said. "They might migrate more north than we think."

Lobsterman Gary Matias said he saw Chessie Thursday at Dolphin's Cove in Bridgeport. Matias said the manatee was trying to wiggle out of the shallow water, so Matias gave it a push and it swam away. "It was powerful," Matias said. "While I had a hold of it it almost pulled me in."

Reshetiloff could not confirm whether the manatee was in Dolphin's Cove because the electronic tracking system has a margin of error of 150 meters.

page 44 col 4/5 August 15 1995
Connecticut Post

Former supervisor

By MATTHEW DALY
Courant Staff Writer

A former supervisor at the Hartford Juvenile Detention Center changed, without his superiors' knowledge, rules restricting accused teenage offenders' access to violent and sexual movies, a top judicial department official said Thursday.

The former supervisor, whose name was not released, changed the rules before the ultraviolent movie "Natural Born Killers" was shown to teenagers at the detention center in June, said the official, Robert F. Cunningham, deputy director of juvenile detention services for the judicial department.

The R-rated movie was brought to the Broad Street facility by a staff member who apparently believed — incorrectly — that he or she was

following department poli
ningham said.

apologize

Manatee leaves state for waters of Rhode Island

Continued from Page A3

with his capture and return to Florida before bay water temperatures fell near 65 degrees, the danger zone for manatees.

Chessie seemed to easily handle the transition Wednesday from the sheltered waters of Long Island Sound and Fishers Island Sound into the unprotected Atlantic. Once he rounded the point at Watch Hill, the manatee had to contend with waves whipped by Hurricane Felix.

"He's handling the surf out here rather well," Rattner said.

Chessie quickly found his way into a salt pond, where he peacefully ate grass and basked in shallow waters that neared 80 degrees. Reid and Rattner are not disclosing Chessie's current location.

Rattner said Chessie is shy, not like the manatees that have been filmed in Crystal Springs, Fla., a popular diving spot where some of the 300 manatees who live there let divers scratch their bellies.

"Those aren't typical animals. They live among people," said

Rattner, who has been studying manatees for 15 years. "Some are curious about people, but very, very few like physical contact."

Reid had to shoo away a kayaker from Chessie near the Guilford shore earlier this week, Rattner said. Manatees are an endangered species and harassing them is a federal crime.

Chessie has scars that indicate an unhappy encounter with a boat, which is a common cause of death for manatees, but he appears healthy and has so far avoided mishap on this journey.

But trouble may be ahead in the cool waters of the North Atlantic. When cold, manatees stop eating and starve. Rattner said he hopes that Rhode Island is the last stop, although Reid jokes uneasily about needing a Canadian visa.

Maybe the Rhode Island coast, with its islands and marshes, will entice Chessie to stay, Rattner said. Maybe the manatee will sense it is time to turn south. Maybe.

"Predicting Chessie, well, you may as well play the horses," Rattner said. "This animal is such a surprise."

Merchandise Availability Thru
Aug. 20, 1995

18 August 1995 page A12 FRIDAY

Hartford Courant, Connecticut

Chessie in strange waters

Maine had Andre the seal, who summered there. Mexico City has Willy the whale, whom it calls Keiko. Connecticut has Chessie the manatee — for the moment, anyway.

The adventurous sea cow from Florida visited off Bridgeport this week. Yes, Bridgeport. He then moved on to Rhode Island waters.

Chessie's arrival is a pleasant surprise. He is far from his home near Cape Canaveral. Whatever lured him here is a mystery. No Florida manatee has ever been spotted in New England before.

He may be an unusual visitor, but he is a welcome one, even though he doesn't live up to his billing as a "sirenian," or sea nymph.

Manatees are so named because they were thought by ancient myth-makers to be human seductresses in disguise who sang sweetly from rocky coasts to lure sailors to their deaths there.

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Perhaps the Mathiases ought to rethink the name of the family business in light of this experience. "Manatee Cove Marina" has a nice ring to it.

Former su

By MATTHEW DALY
Courant Staff Writer

A former supervisor at the Hartford Juvenile Detention Center changed, without his superiors' knowledge, rules restricting accused teenage offenders' access to violent and sexual movies, a top judicial department official said Thursday.

The former supervisor, whose name was not released, changed the rules before the ultraviolent movie "Natural Born Killers" was shown to teenagers at the detention center in June, said the official, Robert F. Cunningham, deputy director of juvenile detention services for the judicial department.

The R-rated movie was brought to the Broad Street facility by a staff member who apparently believed — incorrectly — that he or she was

Manatee leaves state for waters of Rhode Island

Continued from Page A3

with his capture and return to Florida before bay water temperatures fell near 65 degrees, the danger zone for manatees.

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Merchandise Availability Thru
Aug. 20, 1995

Manatee spurns state for Rhode Island waters

By MARK PAZNIOKAS
Courant Staff Writer

It seems Chessie, the wayward Florida manatee, is a typical Connecticut tourist. The state was not his vacation destination, just a nice spot to spend a few days poking around.

After a week wending his way east along the state's coast — with side trips into a Bridgeport marina, New Haven Harbor and the Connecticut River — Chessie was spotted Wednesday riding the storm-tossed waves off Watch Hill, R.I.

"He was surfing with the surfers," said Bob Rattner, a Branford nature photographer who is helping government biologist Jim Reid monitor Chessie. "They were real excited."

Their excitement is understandable. Chessie is 11 feet long, weighs about 1,200 pounds and looks like a walrus without tusks. He also is towing a small buoy that contains two tracking devices.

Alarmed surfers reported seeing a "seal dragging a lobster pot," Rattner said. But he and Reid quickly confirmed that the odd sight was Chessie and his buoy, which resembles the markers used on lobster traps.

Chessie has no interest in lobsters, though. Manatees are herbivores, eating only plants. Pickings were slim when he passed by Manhattan last month in the East River, but he found plenty of tasty marsh grass in Connecticut.

Rhode Island is the 11th state on Chessie's grand tour, an odyssey that began in June when the adult mammal left a sheltered river near Cape Canaveral, Fla., to boldly go where no manatee has gone before.

The previous record for northward travel by one of the tropical creatures was set last fall, when Chessie swam to Chesapeake Bay. He picked up his nickname on that journey, which ended

Please see Manatee, Page A10

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Editorials

Chessie, the manatee on the move

Our part of the country entices plenty of visitors at this time of year. Some seem unlikely to go out of their way to visit this corner of New England. None of them, however, has provoked the surprise that Chessie, the manatee, did as he swam through the waters off Greenwich and Stamford en route from New York City to New Haven Harbor and points beyond.

The 1,200-pound aquatic mammal, dubbed Chessie during a previous foray into the upper reaches of the Chesapeake Bay, is the first of his species to be a documented visitor to our waters. Most of the estimated 1,800 to 2,000 manatees that survive in the United States live in the coastal waters of Florida. The creatures need water 65 degrees or warmer; prolonged exposure to colder water could be deadly.

Which is why Chessie got a plane ride back to Florida last year from the Chesapeake after summer ended. Manatees are on the list of endangered species, and scientists didn't want an adventurous critter like Chessie to meet an untimely demise as autumn set in. They also wanted to keep track of the unusual creature that seems to be unnaturally interested in places manatees just don't turn up, so they attached a radio tag buoy that allows them to monitor his movements.

The Issue:

We should welcome aquatic mammal's foray into the state's shores.

That's how they knew he was heading north, past Atlantic City, up the East River in New York and on into Cos Cob Harbor and the Mianus River. The manatee was spotted in those last two respective locations by Steve Beaumont of Cos Cob and Fred Peters of Mianus Marine on Aug. 8. That evening, there were further sightings as the large animal swam his way up the shoreline .

The scientists have said Chessie is still on the move, but they have refused to give his precise location. No wonder. Manatees are peaceful vegetarians without natural enemies in the animal world. Most fatalities are caused by contact with humans. As if to underscore that point, Chessie bears the scars of an encounter with a motorboat. Keeping clear of them is the best course; penalties for killing a manatee could be as much as $125,000 and a year in prison.

No one seems to know where Chessie is heading, or why. The biologists who rescued him last year are wondering whether another plane ride may be in his future this fall. We may never learn why he passed this way. Chalk it up to just one more occurrence in nature that is a mystery. Unlike some visitors who seem out of place here, however, Chessie is one we should make welcome.

Chessie the traveling manatee gets new transmitter

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Chessie the manatee, who made it up the East Coast to New England last year, has been retagged by scientists in southeast Florida.

A researcher spotted Chessie last week and attached a radio transmitter to a belt the sea cow was still wearing.

On Wednesday, a biologist replaced that tag with a satellite-monitored transmitter.

The 1,200-pound mammal made history last year when he became the first of its species known to reach New England.

The manatee caused a stir in Connecticut as he swam through Long Island Sound on an unprecedented journey north.

Chessie had left his home in Florida's tropical waters in June.

He swam nearly 2,000 miles, reaching Point Judith, R.I., on Aug. 16, before turning around.

Last summer, scientists following the sea cow were thrown off the trail when the original transmitter fell off in New Haven.

It was Chessie's second straight unusual northern summer trip.

The previous summer, the male manatee swam from Florida to Virginia and ended up in Chesapeake Bay.

The large, walrus-like mammal became a cult hero of sorts because scientists thought manatees traveled no further north than the Carolinas from their homes in the waters off Florida.

But a group aimed at saving the manatees, which number just 1,800 in the United States, said now that Chessie has found he can swim this far north, there's no reason to think he'll stop coming. All a manatee needs are warm waters and a food supply, and he has found that in Long Island Sound, said Nancy Sadusky, spokeswoman for Save the Manatee Club of Maitland, Fla.

Feb 25-1996 Sunday Connecticut Post, Bridgeport page A3 col 1-3

Meandering manatee heads south for warm welcome

By DEBBIE CARVALKO
Staff writer

Chessie, the wayward manatee, is headed down the New Jersey coastline and appears to be headed home to Florida. On Sept. 2, the 1,200-pound, walrus-like sea mammal was spotted near Sea Bright, just south of the Gateway National Recreation Area on Sandy Hook. By last Saturday, he was even further south, near Point Pleasant.

"I'm really excited that he's taking the initiative to return south by his own means," said Linda Taylor of the U.S. Wildlife Service. "It shows that he's reacting to cooler water and heading back down to his normal range." The manatee caused a stir in Connecticut last month as he swam through Long Island Sound on an unprecedented journey north. Chessie had left his home in Florida's tropical waters in June. He swam nearly 2,000 miles, reaching Point Judith, R.I., on Aug. 16, before turning around.

Biologists, who tracked Chessie via a transmitter attached to his tail, were concerned that if the manatee remained in New England too long, he might die as the water grew colder with the end of summer. Chessie's transmitter broke free along the Connecticut coastline on the return trip, but swimmers and boaters were encouraged to report his whereabouts.

Manatee Sighted Off New York

NEW HAVEN, Conn. Aug. 30 (AP) — A wayward manatee who shook off his radio transmitter — leaving marine biologists mystified as to his whereabouts — has been spotted off the coast of New York.

Jim Reid, a biologist with the National Biological Service, said the mammal, also known as a sea cow, was sighted off the coast of New Rochelle, N.Y.. The sightings occurred over the weekend, he said.

The manatee, called Chessie by scientists, lost his transmitter last week in New Haven Harbor. Biologists have been tracking Chessie all summer. He became the first documented creature of his species to journey to New England.

Manatees, which are warm water creatures, aren't typically sighted north of the Carolinas because they cannot survive for extended periods in temperatures below 65 degrees.

Chessie has traveled 130 miles toward his home state of Florida since turning around at Point Judith, R.I., the northernmost point of the animal's unusual swim. Biologists believe Chessie still has enough time to reach warmer waters before winter.

Thursday page B9
August 31, 1995

Shouldn't you— every day? For convenient home delivery of The New York Times, call 1-800-NYTIMES (1-800-698-4637).

The New York Times

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18 August 1995
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Hartford Courant, Conn

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Chessie's arrival is a pleasant surprise. He is far from his home near Cape Canaveral. Whatever lured him here is a mystery. No Florida manatee has ever been spotted in New England before.

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Manatee a sight for shore eyes

BELMAR, N.J. — An adventurous manatee has intrigued New Jersey with a rare swim to the Northeast.

"I've never anything like this," said Anthony Giordano, who was preparing to go fishing off the Shark River inlet Friday when he spotted Chessie, the 10-foot-long, 1,250-pound mammal.

Robert Schoelkopf, director of the Marine Mammal Stranding Center in Brigantine, N.J., said this is the farthest north a manatee, an endangered species native to Florida, has been reported.

Chessie, who is tagged with a radio transmitter, is heading north at an average of 28 miles per day during his journey from Jacksonville, Fla.

The Associated Press

6 August 1995

N.Y. N.Y. Daily News Sunday

New Hampshire Sunday News/Manchester, N.H.

23 July 1995 page 7B col 1-4

Ocean Cruising Is Irrestible to Errant Bay Manatee

By Amy Argetsinger
The Washington Post

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — "Chessie," the adventurous Florida manatee recently spotted on his second northward charge up the Chesapeake Bay, has apparently made a detour.

After swimming nearly as far north as the Potomac River, the 1,500-pound sea cow turned around, headed out to the Atlantic Ocean and hung a left. Wednesday afternoon, he was sighted near Maryland's Assateague Island, south of Ocean City.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service officials said it's still too soon to guess whether Chessie plans to repeat his summer of '94 shenanigans.

Last year, Chessie swam past Annapolis to the mouth of the Chester River on the Eastern Shore, about 700 miles north of his natural habitat off the central Florida coast. The manatee received his nickname and widespread notice after he was seen bumping against boats at a marina near the mouth of the Chester.

When he dawdled through September, scientists and wildlife officials, worried he would get caught in a cold snap, airlifted him back to Florida on an all-expense-paid flight.

Manatees, endangered plant-eating mammals, resemble hippos without legs or walruses without tusks. Their closest relatives in the animal kingdom are elephants. Warm-water creatures, they rarely stray farther north than the Carolinas.

AP File Photo

WEST INDIAN MANATEE swims in warm waters of Blue Springs State Park near Orange City, Fla.

Environmental agencies and groups went to the trouble of rescuing Chessie from the bay last year because only 1,800 of his species survive. After spending $6,000 on the rescue, Maitland, Fla.-based Save the Manatee established Chessie's Emergency Rescue Fund — not necessarily earmarked for Chessie, but at this rate, "who knows?" said spokesman Nancy Sadusky.

"We would like not to have to rescue him again," she said. "We'll just have to see what happens."

Chessie's latest excellent adventure started June 15, when he departed from Jacksonville, Fla. Three weeks later, he swam past the Rappahannock River. Then last week, he reversed course, swimming around the tip of Virginia's Eastern Shore on Saturday.

Marine biologists from the Department of the Interior caught up with him Monday near Hog Island, off Virginia's Atlantic coast, and replaced the batteries in the satellite-tracking tag attached to his tail.

Fish and Wildlife Service officials said it's too soon in the season to start worrying about another rescue. In the meantime, they don't mind watching him explore, said agency spokesman Patricia Fisher.

"I don't know what the right biological term is, but he already had a girl down in Florida this year," she said.

Bridgeport, Conn Col 5,6

Chessie throws 'voice'

Continued from A1

spot him. Right now, though, they're not quite sure where he is.

On the plus side, Chessie appears to be headed toward his Florida home, after an unprecedented summer trip up the East Coast. Researchers had worried he would go so far north that he would be unable to get home before the water got cold.

But last weekend, after reaching Rhode Island, he turned around and headed south through Long Island Sound. It appears he stopped near New Haven and even swam a ways up the Quinnipiac River to feed on plants.

On Tuesday, researchers believe, the buoy carrying the radio transmitter came loose. But biologists aren't fretting. Yet.

"He's still in warm waters and in a comfort zone," said Kathy Rashetiloff, a biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Chessie's transmitter was designed to break off if it became entangled. Otherwise, it could hold the animal underwater and drown him, Rashetiloff said.

Chessie, named last year because of an unusual trek to the Chesapeake Bay, had to be captured in the fall and airlifted to Florida before water temperatures dipped below 65 degrees. Previously, it was thought manatees did not migrate north of the Carolinas.

Even though Chessie is friendly, swimmers and boaters should not try to approach him. Anyone seeing Chessie may call Mystic Marinelife Aquarium at 536-9631.

a second cable sys- ity to compete in

Hartford Courant 22 August 1995
Hartford, Connecticut page B7 col 3,4 Tuesday

Chessie's hope: Go south, young manatee

By **MARK PAZNIOKAS**
Courant Staff Writer

Chessie the wandering manatee abruptly did an about-face off the coast of Rhode Island over the weekend and is back in Connecticut waters — possibly on a 1,500-mile swim home to Florida.

"It's the right direction," said Jim Reid, the government biologist who has been tracking Chessie since the marine mammal left Florida in June. "But he's still a very long way from Florida."

Chessie reached Point Judith, R.I., but then he backtracked 35 miles into Long Island Sound, Reid said Monday in a telephone interview from his office at the National Biological Service in Gainesville, Fla.

Satellite tracking pinpointed the manatee Saturday off Mystic and in New London Harbor, Reid said. He declined to release more recent locations, hoping to keep the curious away from the shy, gentle creature.

Chessie had the water to himself Sunday and today. Connecticut beaches were closed to swimming and shellfishing from Waterford to Rhode Island because of a raw sewage spill Saturday night in Mystic.

"I don't see that as being a problem right now," Reid said of the sewage. Chessie probably had passed by Mystic before the sewage plant malfunctioned, and manatees are hearty animals, he said.

"We do find these animals often frequent polluted waters. The Miami River in Miami sometimes has quite a few manatees in there in the wintertime, some times year round," he said. "It has certainly less than optimal water quality."

Time and temperature are greater problems for Chessie.

Reid declined to speculate if Chessie can safely make it back to his native southern waters before the ocean temperature drops below 65 degrees, the point below which the walrus-like manatees tend to stop eating.

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Chessie, an adult male who has wandered 1,000 miles farther north than any other manatee, conceivably could take up temporary residence at one of the spots where he stopped to feed on marsh grass on his trip, Reid said.

"So we're still concerned," Reid said. "He doesn't have a lot of time to waste."

Manatees have prodigious appetites, eating the equivalent of between 4 percent and 9 percent of their body weight every day. Chessie weighs about 1,200 pounds.

Chessie once before feinted south and then continued his trip north. In July, the manatee briefly reversed direction off the eastern shore of Virginia and Maryland. Then he resumed his northward swim.

Biologists trapped Chessie last October in Chesapeake Bay, which accounts for his nickname, after water temperatures dipped dangerously low. The Coast Guard flew him back to Florida and affixed a tracking device.

Reid said he expects Chessie to remain in Long Island Sound for several days, feeding and resting. If the manatee is heading home, Reid has no doubt he can find his way.

"We know these guys have a good memory," Reid said. "They know how to navigate."

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Chessie, an adult male who has wandered 1,000 miles farther north than any other manatee, conceivably could take up temporary residence at one of the spots where he stopped to feed on marsh grass on his trip, Reid said.

"So we're still concerned," Reid said. "He doesn't have a lot of time to waste."

Manatees have prodigious appetites, eating the equivalent of between 4 percent and 9 percent of their body weight every day. Chessie weighs about 1,200 pounds.

Chessie once before feinted south and then continued his trip north. In July, the manatee briefly reversed direction off the eastern shore of Virginia and Maryland. Then he resumed his northward swim.

Biologists trapped Chessie last October in Chesapeake Bay, which accounts for his nickname, after water temperatures dipped dangerously low. The Coast Guard flew him back to Florida and affixed a tracking device.

Reid said he expects Chessie to remain in Long Island Sound for several days, feeding and resting. If the manatee is heading home, Reid has no doubt he can find his way.

"We know these guys have a good memory," Reid said. "They know how to navigate."

Hartford Courant 22 August 1995
Hartford, Connecticut page B7
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Chessie's hope: Go south, young manatee

By **MARK PAZNIOKAS**
Courant Staff Writer

Chessie the wandering manatee abruptly did an about-face off the coast of Rhode Island over the weekend and is back in Connecticut waters — possibly on a 1,500-mile swim home to Florida.

"It's the right direction," said Jim Reid, the government biologist who has been tracking Chessie since the marine mammal left Florida in June. "But he's still a very long way from Florida."

Chessie reached Point Judith, R.I., but then he backtracked 35 miles into Long Island Sound, Reid said Monday in a telephone interview from his office at the National Biological Service in Gainesville, Fla.

Satellite tracking pinpointed the manatee Saturday off Mystic and in New London Harbor, Reid said. He declined to release more recent locations, hoping to keep the curious away from the shy, gentle creature.

Chessie had the water to himself Sunday and today. Connecticut beaches were closed to swimming and shellfishing from Waterford to Rhode Island because of a raw sewage spill Saturday night in Mystic.

"I don't see that as being a problem right now," Reid said of the sewage. Chessie probably had passed by Mystic before the sewage plant malfunctioned, and manatees are hearty animals, he said.

"We do find these animals often frequent polluted waters. The Miami River in Miami sometimes has quite a few manatees in there in the wintertime, some times year round," he said. "It has certainly less than optimal water quality."

Time and temperature are greater problems for Chessie.

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Burlington
Free
Press,
Aug. 16,
1995

The Air Force has been crit- Black Hawk helicopters. Capt. Emery — now have letters disapproval from Foglema

Manatee swims to New England

The Associated Press

STRATFORD, Conn. — A wayward manatee wandering north became the first of its species known to reach New England, marine experts said Tuesday.

The animal has astounded marine biologists, who for the first time have documented a member of this endangered species moving beyond America's mid-Atlantic states. The manatee, also known as a sea cow, was spotted swimming and resting on the shores of New Haven on Saturday.

"We have never documented a manatee sighting north of the Chesapeake Bay," said Jim Reid of the National Biological Service.

This manatee, nicknamed Chessie, first shocked scientists last year when it was spotted in Virginia's Chesapeake Bay. Worried that it would die when the water turned cold, rescuers trapped it, and airlifted it back to Florida, attaching a radio beacon to its tail at that time.

But once again, the 10-foot, 1,200-pound manatee has spent its summer moving north.

Scientists are not sure what they will do if it does not turn around soon. The temperature of local waters has been in the upper 70s, Reid said.

"Once Chessie reaches cold water or the weather turns slightly cooler, we hope that he will make his own decision to return south," Reid said.

Ashe statue ground-breaki

The Washington Post

RICHMOND, Va. — The ceremony was supposed to help Richmond start getting past the bitterness, past the racial divisions that brought it so much unwanted international attention last month.

But as people gathered on the city's premier avenue to break ground Tuesday for the statue of native son Arthur Ashe, always within camera range was the group of two dozen demonstrators, men in gray battle dress, who silently hoisted the Stars and Bars.

They showed that resolution still might be a long time off.

"My ancestors fought with the 21st Virginia Infantry . . . and I think this place is inappropriate," said Thomas Morris, a nightclub disk jockey. "If you're going to put up a black monument here, put one up to thos who fought in the Confederat Army. A lot of fellows in the cit feel this way."

Neither the ceremony nor th protest had any of the emotiona conflict of the hours-long Jul meeting at which the City Council voted to make room for th 24-foot bronze statue on Monument Avenue. Supporters ha argued that the tennis great, wh broke many racial barriers, deserved to be honored on the sam street where the Confederacy' most revered heroes stand large than life.

Under the morning's cloud skies, Ashe's mother, sister and brother looked on proudly a friends and elected leader scanned an artist's drawing of the memorial, read from Ashe's book, "Days of Grace," cited the

U.S. fire deaths hit all-time low

The Associated Press

BOSTON — The number of people killed by fires in the United States dropped in 1994 to the lowest level in at least 81 years, a fire-safety group reported.

The National Fire Protection Association credited better safety standards and increasing use of smoke detectors in recent years.

The private organization issued its annual report on fire deaths Wednesday. The group, founded in 1896, gathers data from fire departments around the country.

The NFPA reported that 4,275 people died in fires in 1994, not counting firefighters. That was a 7.8 percent decrease from 4,635 the previous year.

It is the lowest total since reliable record-keeping began in 1913, NFPA spokesman John Hall Jr. said. A National Safety Council analysis of death certificates found 8,900 fire deaths that year.

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CONTINUING EDUCATION HAS

Chessie loses device; few see mammal

By KIM MARGOLIS
Staff writer

Chessie the wayward manatee was not spotted Friday, but biologists tracking him aren't surprised.

The radio transmitter that had been attached to the 1,200 pound sea cow allowed scientists to trace his movments, and the buoy attached to the transmitter helped boaters and swimmers spot him. The transmitter fell off in Long Island Sound earlier this week.

"The number of sightings will not be as great because the majority came from the transmitter being sighted before the manatee," said Jim Reid, a biologist with National Biological Service, which tracks the 10-foot-long animal. "The water is about as dark as it gets up there."

Chessie was spotted once, off New Haven, since his transmitter fell off so scientists are fairly sure the device was not cut loose in an accident.

The transmitter is designed to break off if it gets stuck on a branch or dock so that the manatee does not drown.

The manatee has made news this summer by traveling as far north as Rhode Island.

It had previously been thought that manatees migrated no farther north than Virginia from their Florida home.

Although the transmitter is off, biologists are breathing easier because the animal is traveling south. It needs to leave the north before water temperatures drop below 65 degrees.

The transmitter was attached last October after Chessie wandered north into the Chesapeake Bay and had to be airlifted home. Reid said officials hope to tag the animal again because they have learned much about its migration patterns.

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Southbound Chessie keeps radio silence

By KIM MARGOLIS
Staff writer

He's been mistaken for a whale and a walrus, but it's unlikely that the 1,200 pound gray manatee called Chessie would be confused with a needle in a haystack.

But that's essentially what he is, now that a transmitter being used to track him has fallen off in the waters off New Haven. The only way scientists can follow his movements now is if boaters, swimmers or people on shore

See **CHESSIE** on A7

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